WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A computer-implemented method to create and execute a restricted stock sale plan, comprising

5   maintaining restricted stock information corresponding to a restricted stock, said restricted stock information accessible via a network by a sale plan initiator, a holder, a broker, and a counselor;

          providing a sale plan template to the sale plan initiator via the network in response to receiving from said sale plan initiator via said network a request to

10 create said sale plan, said sale plan template including information extracted from the restricted stock information;

          when the sale plan initiator is the broker

               making the sale plan available to the holder via the network in response to receiving said sale plan from the sale plan initiator via the network, said

15 sale plan having been updated by the sale plan initiator to call for action by the holder;

               providing the sale plan to the holder via the network in response to receiving from said holder via said network a request for said sale plan;

               making the sale plan available to the broker via the network in response to

20 receiving from one of the sale plan initiator and the holder via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been updated by said one of the sale plan initiator and the holder to include sale plan documentation and sale plan parameters and to call for action by the broker;

               providing the sale plan to the broker via the network in response to receiving

25 from said broker via said network a request for said sale plan;

               making the sale plan available to the counselor via the network in response to receiving from the broker via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been reviewed and updated by said broker to call for action by the counselor;

               providing the sale plan to the counselor via the network in response to

30 receiving from said counselor via said network a request for said sale plan;

               making the sale plan available to the broker via the network in response to receiving from the counselor via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been reviewed and updated by said counselor to call for action by the broker; and

               initiating a delegending process for each of a specified number of sales

35 concerning the restricted stock in accordance with the sale plan parameters of the

sale plan in response to receiving from the broker via the network said sale plan, said sale plan having been updated by said broker to call for the delegending process.

5   2.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein said initiating step includes

creating and storing a data record for the each of the specified number of sales, said data record including a portion of said restricted stock information, said data record stored in relation to the broker.

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3.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, including

periodically scanning a database for a sale plan calling for initiation of the delegending process for a corresponding restricted stock; and

creating and storing in the database a data record that includes data relating

15 to the delegending process, said data record including a cross-reference to the sale plan.

4.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising

updating the sale plan by the holder to call for additional action by the sale

20 plan initiator, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said holder.

5.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising

updating the sale plan by the broker to call for additional action by the

25 holder, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said broker.

6.   The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising

updating the sale plan by the counselor to call for additional action by the

30 holder and the broker, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said counselor.

7.   A computer program product for use in conjunction with a computer system, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium

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and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising

        instructions that maintain restricted stock information corresponding to a restricted stock, said restricted stock information accessible via a network by a sale

5   plan initiator, a holder, a broker, and a counselor;

        instructions that provide a sale plan template to the sale plan initiator via the network in response to receiving from said sale plan initiator via said network a request to create said sale plan, said sale plan template including information extracted from the restricted stock information;

10   when the sale plan initiator is the broker

            instructions that make the sale plan available to the holder via the network in response to receiving said sale plan from the sale plan initiator via the network, said sale plan having been updated by the sale plan initiator to call for action by the holder;

15   instructions that provide the sale plan to the holder via the network in response to receiving from said holder via said network a request for said sale plan;

        instructions that make the sale plan available to the broker via the network in response to receiving from one of the sale plan initiator and the holder via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been updated by said one of the sale

20   plan initiator and the holder to include sale plan documentation and sale plan parameters and to call for action by the broker;

        instructions that provide the sale plan to the broker via the network in response to receiving from said broker via said network a request for said sale plan;

        instructions that make the sale plan available to the counselor via the

25   network in response to receiving from the broker via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been reviewed and updated by said broker to call for action by the counselor;

        instructions that provide the sale plan to the counselor via the network in response to receiving from said counselor via said network a request for said sale

30   plan;

        instructions that make the sale plan available to the broker via the network in response to receiving from the counselor via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been reviewed and updated by said counselor to call for action by the broker; and

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instructions that initiate a delegending process for each of a specified number of sales concerning the restricted stock in accordance with the sale plan parameters of the sale plan in response to receiving from the broker via the network said sale plan, said sale plan having been updated by said broker to call for the delegending

5 process.

8. The computer program product of claim 7, wherein said initiating step includes

instructions that create and store a data record for the each of the specified
10 number of sales, said data record including a portion of said restricted stock information, said data record stored in relation to the broker.

9. The computer program product of claim 7, including

instructions that periodically scan a database for a sale plan calling for
15 initiation of the delegending process for a corresponding restricted stock; and

instructions that create and store in the database a data record that includes data relating to the delegending process, said data record including a cross-reference to the sale plan.

20 10. The computer program product of claim 7, further comprising

instructions that update the sale plan by the holder to call for additional action by the sale plan initiator, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said holder.

25 11. The computer program product of claim 7, further comprising

instructions that update the sale plan by the broker to call for additional action by the holder, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said broker.

30 12. The computer program product of claim 7, further comprising

instructions that update the sale plan by the counselor to call for additional action by the holder and the broker, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said counselor.

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13. A computer system to create and execute a sale plan corresponding to a restricted stock, comprising

    a memory to store instructions and data;

    a processor to execute the instructions stored in the memory;

5   the memory storing

        instructions that maintain restricted stock information corresponding to a restricted stock, said restricted stock information accessible via a network by a sale plan initiator, a holder, a broker, and a counselor;

        instructions that provide a sale plan template to the sale plan initiator

10 via the network in response to receiving from said sale plan initiator via said network a request to create said sale plan, said sale plan template including information extracted from the restricted stock information;

        when the sale plan initiator is the broker

            instructions that make the sale plan available to the holder via

15 the network in response to receiving said sale plan from the sale plan initiator via the network, said sale plan having been updated by the sale plan initiator to call for action by the holder;

        instructions that provide the sale plan to the holder via the network in response to receiving from said holder via said network a request for

20 said sale plan;

        instructions that make the sale plan available to the broker via the network in response to receiving from one of the sale plan initiator and the holder via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been updated by said one of the sale plan initiator and the holder to include sale plan documentation and sale

25 plan parameters and to call for action by the broker;

        instructions that provide the sale plan to the broker via the network in response to receiving from said broker via said network a request for said sale plan;

        instructions that make the sale plan available to the counselor via the network in response to receiving from the broker via said network said sale plan,

30 said sale plan having been reviewed and updated by said broker to call for action by the counselor;

        instructions that provide the sale plan to the counselor via the network in response to receiving from said counselor via said network a request for said sale plan;

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instructions that make the sale plan available to the broker via the network in response to receiving from the counselor via said network said sale plan, said sale plan having been reviewed and updated by said counselor to call for action by the broker; and

5   instructions that initiate a delegending process for each of a specified number of sales concerning the restricted stock in accordance with the sale plan parameters of the sale plan in response to receiving from the broker via the network said sale plan, said sale plan having been updated by said broker to call for the delegending process.

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14.   The computer system of claim 13, wherein said initiating step includes instructions that create and store a data record for the each of the specified number of sales, said data record including a portion of said restricted stock information, said data record stored in relation to the broker.

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15.   The computer system of claim 13, including instructions that periodically scan the memory for a sale plan calling for initiation of the delegending process for a corresponding restricted stock; and instructions that create and store in the memory a data record that includes

20 data relating to the delegending process, said data record including a cross-reference to the sale plan.

16.   The computer system of claim 13, further comprising instructions that update the sale plan by the holder to call for additional

25 action by the sale plan initiator, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said holder.

17.   The computer system of claim 13, further comprising instructions that update the sale plan by the broker to call for additional

30 action by the holder, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said broker.

18.   The computer system of claim 13, further comprising

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instructions that update the sale plan by the counselor to call for additional action by the holder and the broker, said sale plan subsequently being subject to an additional review by said counselor.

5   19.   A computer-implemented method to create and execute a restricted stock sale plan, comprising

a first stage in which a process for creating and executing a sale plan regarding a restricted stock is initiated by one of a broker and the broker and a holder, said first stage resulting in a sale plan contract, a set of sale plan

10   parameters, and a release of the process to a second stage;

the second stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are reviewed by the broker, said broker able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively release the process to a third stage;

the third stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan

15   parameters are reviewed by a corporate counselor for issues concerning an issuer of the restricted stock, said corporate counselor able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively release the process to a fourth stage;

the fourth stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are further reviewed by the broker, said broker able to return the

20   process to the first stage and alternatively accept said sale plan and release the process to a fifth stage; and

the fifth stage in which a controller initiates a delegending process for each of a specified number of sales concerning the restricted stock in accordance with the sale plan parameters of the sale plan.

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20.   The computer-implemented method of claim 19, wherein the fifth stage includes the controller

periodically scanning a database for a sale plan calling for initiation of the delegending process for a corresponding restricted stock; and

30   creating and storing a data record that includes data relating to the delegending process, said data record including a cross-reference to the sale plan.

21.   A computer program product for use in conjunction with a computer system, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium

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and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising

instructions for execution of a first stage in which a process for creating and executing a sale plan regarding a restricted stock is initiated by one of a broker and

5   the broker and a holder, said first stage resulting in a sale plan contract, a set of sale plan parameters, and a release of the process to a second stage;

instructions for execution of the second stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are reviewed by the broker, said broker able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively release the process to a third

10 stage;

instructions for execution of the third stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are reviewed by a corporate counselor for issues concerning an issuer of the restricted stock, said corporate counselor able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively release the process to a fourth stage;

15   instructions for execution of the fourth stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are further reviewed by the broker, said broker able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively accept said sale plan and release the process to a fifth stage; and

instructions for execution of the fifth stage in which a controller initiates a

20 delegending process for each of a specified number of sales concerning the restricted stock in accordance with the sale plan parameters of the sale plan.

22.   The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the instructions for the fifth stage include

25   instructions by which the controller periodically scans the memory for a sale plan calling for initiation of the delegending process for a corresponding restricted stock; and

instructions by which the controller creates and stores in the memory a data record that includes data relating to the delegending process, said data record

30 including a cross-reference to the sale plan.

23.   A computer system to create and execute a sale plan corresponding to a restricted stock, comprising

a memory to store instructions and data;

35   a processor to execute the instructions stored in the memory;

the memory storing

instructions for execution of a first stage in which a process for creating and executing a sale plan regarding a restricted stock is initiated by one of a broker and the broker and a holder, said first stage resulting in a sale plan

5   contract, a set of sale plan parameters, and a release of the process to a second stage;

instructions for execution of the second stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are reviewed by the broker, said broker able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively release the process to a

10   third stage;

instructions for execution of the third stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are reviewed by a corporate counselor for issues concerning an issuer of the restricted stock, said corporate counselor able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively release the process to a

15   fourth stage;

instructions for execution of the fourth stage in which the sale plan contract and the set of sale plan parameters are further reviewed by the broker, said broker able to return the process to the first stage and alternatively accept said sale plan and release the process to a fifth stage; and

20   instructions for execution of the fifth stage in which a controller initiates a delegending process for each of a specified number of sales concerning the restricted stock in accordance with the sale plan parameters of the sale plan.

24.   The computer system of claim 31, wherein the instructions for the fifth stage

25   include

instructions by which the controller periodically scans the memory for a sale plan calling for initiation of the delegending process for a corresponding restricted stock; and

instructions by which the controller creates and stores in the memory a data

30   record that includes data relating to the delegending process, said data record including a cross-reference to the sale plan.

25.   A computer-implemented system for creating, modifying, and executing a restricted stock sale plan, comprising:

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a plurality of processing stages, each processing stage comprising a plurality of parameters defining operational aspects of the processing stage, wherein the parameters comprise:

a first parameter that defines a set of entities authorized to act with respect
5   to the restricted stock sale plan during the processing stage, the set of entities comprising one or more entities;

a second parameter that defines a set of actions that the set of entities is authorized to perform during the processing stage, the set of actions comprising one or more actions; and

10   a third parameter that defines a set of processing stages to which the restricted stock sale plan may be released at the discretion of a member of the set of entities, the set of processing stages comprising one or more processing stages.

26.   The computer-implemented system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of
15 processing stages includes

a sale plan initiator stage in which

the set of entities comprises a sale plan initiator;

the set of actions comprises a creation of a sale plan contract and a set of sale plan parameters; and

20   the set of processing stages comprises an initial broker approval stage.

27.   The computer-implemented system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of processing stages includes

an initial broker approval stage in which

25   the set of entities comprises a broker;

the set of actions comprises a review of a sale plan contract and a set of sale plan parameters produced by a sale plan initiator stage; and

the set of processing stages comprises the sale plan initiator stage and a counselor approval stage.

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28.   The computer-implemented system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of processing stages includes

a counselor approval stage in which

the set of entities comprises a counselor;

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the set of actions comprises a review of a sale plan contract and a set of sale plan parameters forwarded from an initial broker approval stage; and

the set of processing stages comprises a sale plan initiator stage and a final broker approval stage.

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29.   The computer-implemented system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of processing stages includes

a final broker approval stage in which

the set of entities comprises a broker;

10   the set of actions comprises a final review of a sale plan contract and a set of sale plan parameters forwarded from a counselor approval stage; and

the set of processing stages comprises a sale plan initiator stage.

30.   The computer-implemented system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of

15 processing stages includes

a controller execution stage in which

the set of entities comprises a controller; and

the set of actions comprises initiation of a delegending process for each sale specified in a sale plan and a set of sale plan parameters, said sale plan

20 and said set of sale plan parameters forwarded from a final broker approval stage.

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